

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 through 7, 11 through 13, 15, and 48 through 60 are now present in the application. Claims 1 and 49 are the only independent claims.

Claims 1, 3 through 7, 11 through 13, 15, 16, and 48 through 58 heretofore on file were allowed prior to filing of a Request for Continued Examination on even date and remain pending in the application.

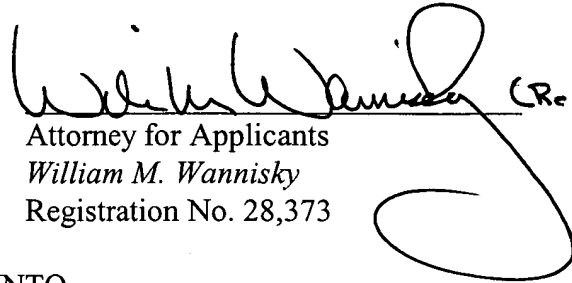
Claims 1, 3 through 7, 11 through 13, 15, 16, and 48 through 52, and 55 through 57 have been amended to even more succinctly define the invention and/or to improve their form. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments presented herein do not affect the allowability of the claims previously on file. It is also respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added

Newly presented Claims 59 and 60 are submitted to accord Applicants with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added and that the newly added Claims 59 and 60 also are allowable.

Favorable consideration hereof and early passage to issue of the present application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the below-shown address.

Respectfully submitted,

 (Re-signed 12/16/03)
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